AMENDMENTS

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:

   sensing an intruder within a predetermined vicinity of a Free Space Optical Communication (FSOC) system; and

   reducing an emitted power of the FSOC system to a non-zero level.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

   sensing a capacitance change caused by the intruder.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

   sensing a voltage change caused by the intruder.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

   comparing a sensed voltage to a reference voltage.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

   ~~reducing the emitted power of the FSOC system to~~ the non-zero level a level that is not hazardous to the intruder

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

   ~~reducing the emitted power of the FSOC system to~~ the non-zero level a level that allows a communications link involving the FSOC system to remain operative

7. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

alerting the intruder to a hazardous condition associated with the FSOC system.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
rendering an alarm to the intruder.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
activating a video recording device.

10. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
providing a notification regarding the intruder.

11. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
detecting an absence of the intruder from a predetermined vicinity of the FSOC system.

12. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
increasing the emitted power of the FSOC system.

13. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the FSOC system comprises a radio system.

14. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the intruder is sensed via a capacitive proximity sensor.

15. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:
a Free Space Optical Communication (FSOC) subsystem; and
a sensor adapted to detect an intruder within a predetermined vicinity of the FSOC subsystem; and

a switch adapted to reduce an emitted power of the FSOC subsystem to a non-zero level, said switch coupled to said sensor.

16. (Original) The system of claim 15, wherein the FSOC subsystem comprises a radio subsystem.

17. (Original) The system of claim 15, wherein the sensor is a capacitive proximity sensor.

18. (Original) The system of claim 15, wherein the switch comprises an optical attenuator.

19. (Original) The system of claim 15, wherein the sensor comprises a plurality of horizontal wires at least partially surrounding a perimeter of an installation site of said FSOC subsystem.

20. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:

a Free Space Optical Communication (FSOC) subsystem; and

means for sensing an intruder within a predetermined vicinity of the FSOC subsystem; and

means for reducing an emitted power of the FSOC subsystem in response to sensing the intruder to a non-zero level.